



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

§ 280. **Diclytra Dielytra, Dicentra.**—To verify references is always important. A little mistake was made in my *Genera Illustrata*, i, 120, and *Manual*, 61, through my inability to do so. Until now I possessed no copy of Römer's *Archiv der Botanik*, nor did I know of any copy in America. Relying upon Bernhardt, who in *Linnaea*, viii, 458, declared that Borkhausen's name *Diclytra* was a misprint, and that the name should be written *Dicentra*, I wrote in the *Genera* that the name in its original form was a slip or typographical error, but that the derivation was correctly given by Borkhausen. In the *Manual* the statement is similar. We have now Römer's *Archiv*, and the essential parts of Borkhausen's paper were reprinted by Pfeiffer, whose article is duly referred to by Watson in his *Index*. The correction I have to make is this. The error in Borkhausen's paper can hardly be typographical. Three times the name is printed *Diclytra*; and this is said to be composed of "δῖς, zwey, und κλυτρον, Sporn." There is, of course, no such Greek word: the word "Sporn," spur, throws out Sprengel and Reichenbach's conjecture that ἐκλυτρον was meant; that the printer could have changed *Dicentra* and κέντρον into *Diclytra* and κλυτρον seems most unlikely. It is more probable that Borkhausen fancied there was such a word.

There is diversity in the orthography of Borkhausen's name. In Römer's *Archiv* the name appears as Borkhausen, and it is so given by Bernhardt: it is so printed on the title page of his own *Botanisches Wörterbuch*. But Endlicher, Pritzel, and the Royal Society's Catalogue write Borkhausen, and Pfeiffer, in *Bot. Zeitung*, noticing the two forms, adopts this as the more correct. A. GRAY.

§ 281. **Sporting *Trillium grandiflorum*.**—The note on the forms of *Trillium grandiflorum* collected by Mr. Shoop, which I contributed to the November No. of the BULLETIN, has brought to me a letter from an old correspondent, Mr. E. L. Hankenson, of Newark, Wayne Co., N. Y., along with a remarkable series of abnormal variations of the same species. They all have conspicuously petioled leaves; and this peculiarity is the only abnormal feature in some of the specimens, except the smaller size which is common to all of them. But the acute base and acuminate apex of every leaf keeps them all apart from *T. nivale*. The same clump furnishes specimens: 1, with a whorl of three petioled leaves in the ordinary position; 2, with peduncle as a naked scape, and two very long petioled leaves from the root-stock along with the scape; 3, the same with a solitary leaf of this sort. These variations are rather common in Mr. Hankenson's observation. Monstrous forms with chlorosed perianth are common. In one of these the tip of a rootstock sends up two filiform stems, side by side: one of them terminates in a whorl of three long-petioled leaves, the petioles of about the length of the blade; the other is terminated by a blossom with foliaceous (green and white) petals, imperfect stamens and a more depauperate imperfect pistil. Other leafless flower-stems bear only a depauperate green flower; the perianth of six similar green leaves; the stamens not transformed but abortive as to pollen; the pistil sometimes reduced

to a mere vestige, sometimes raised on a short internode which supports three of the stamens, and undergoing partial reversion into green leaves. I find that Mr. Hankenson contributed to the first volume of the BULLETIN (Vol. i, No. 6, June, 1870) a short note upon some of these variations.

A. GRAY.

§ 282. **Agaricus with the odor of Chlorine.**—The note on Truffles, on page 276 (last BULLETIN), reminds me—1st. That these fungi must be very scarce in this country, for I have been looking out for them for the past 20 years without finding them more than once or twice:—2nd. A year ago last August I found a most remarkable new Agaricus. *It was exhaling a strong odor of Chlorine when found*, and continued to do so while it was kept fresh. The appropriate specific name, *chlorinosmus*, has been given to it by Prof. Peck, to whom I sent the specimen together with a few notes of its peculiarities.

AGARICUS (*Amanita*) CHLORINOSMUS, PECK. A very large species, somewhat firm in texture, and nearly pure white. Pileus about 6' in diameter and 1'—1½' thick, convex above, the margin incurved, the under surface flattish and of a very light cream color, clothed on the upper side around and towards the margin, to the depth of a half inch or so, with an extremely light and soft deciduous efflorescence or powder, with a scarcely discernible yellow tint (like lime when but slightly charged with chlorine); towards the centre this powder becomes thinner and more compact, and at length (in the centre) it passes into soft, now friable and then persistent, warts or corrugations. Volva friable and caducous (or none?). Stipe solid, subcompressed (always?), 6' or 7' high and about 1½' thick, and extending about 4 inches beneath the ground.

It was found nearly a half mile from any building or public road, growing among coarse gravel and cobble stones, near the base of a steep (gravelly) wooded ridge with a north-westerly slope, and which was burned over during the preceding spring or autumn.

That the plant was exhaling chlorine there can be no doubt; since there is no other substance known having the same, or even a remotely similar odor. There was no mistaking this odor, which was by no means faint. Several persons besides myself, who were familiar with the smell of chlorine, and who handled the plant when fresh, immediately and positively recognized it. Among these persons are J. H. West, Teacher, (now of Lodi, N. J.), I. A. Zabriskie, Druggist, and Fred. Ahrens, Hotel Keeper. Undoubtedly the chlorine was taken from the soil by the plant in the form of a chloride, most probably the chloride of ammonium, or possibly of sodium.

For the following, and other reasons, I cannot help looking upon this as a most important scientific discovery. Here we have chlorine, hitherto considered a potent destroyer of all organic substances, actually exhaled by a living organism!—another striking proof that organic matter, when under the influence of, and protected by, the principle of life, is not amenable to the ordinary laws of chemistry, and may successfully resist or even create a